

PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Karl L. GINTER et al.)
Application No.: 10/696,659) Prior Group Art Unit: 2132
Filing Date.: October 28, 2003) Prior Examiner: J. Darrow
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR)
SECURE TRANSACTION)
MANAGEMENT AND ELECTRONIC)
RIGHTS PROTECTION)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PTO COMMUNICATION

On October 28, 2003, Applicants filed a Rule 53(b) continuation application as a continuation of U.S. Application No. 10/106,742, filed March 25, 2002 (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,640,304), which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/327,405, filed June 7, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,363,488), which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/760,440, filed December 4, 1996 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,910,987), which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/388,107, filed February 13, 1995 (now abandoned).

The continuation application was filed with a transmittal letter stating the application is a "true copy of prior Application No. 10/106,742 as originally filed on March 25, 2002." After filing, Applicants noticed that the copy of the specification filed on October 28, 2003, inadvertently comprised a page 1 from another application, not

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page 1 from immediate parent Application No. 10/106,742. All other pages of the specification as provided are correct.

Applicants enclose a copy of page 1 of prior Application No. 10/106,742, and respectfully request that the Examiner substitute the enclosed page 1 for the page 1 of the specification as filed. Applicants point out that page 1 of prior Application No. 10/106,742, contains the two sentences "This application is a continuing application of application Serial No. 08/388,107 filed on 13 February 1995. The entirety of the following prior issued patents are incorporated by reference: U.S. Patents No. 5,539,828, 5,473,692, and 5,568,552." These sentences do not appear in the copy of the specification as filed in the new continuation application. However, as the Examiner can see from the accompanying Preliminary Amendment, Applicants intend to correct and/or delete these sentences from the specification, if this substitute page is accepted.

Applicants respectfully submit that substituting the enclosed page 1 for the page 1 as filed will make the specification of the continuation application a "true copy" of the specification of the parent application. The undersigned regrets this administrative oversight and confusion that may result. The undersigned further states affirmatively that this error occurred without deceptive intent.

Please charge any required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 18, 2003

By 
Linda J. Thayer
Reg. No. 45,681

O P E S C I T A
NOV 19 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SECURE TRANSACTION
MANAGEMENT AND ELECTRONIC RIGHTS PROTECTION

This application is a continuing application of application Serial No. 08/388,107 filed on 13 February 1995.

5 The entirety of the following prior issued patents are incorporated by reference: U.S. Patents No. 5,539,828, 5,473,692 and 5,568,552.

Field(s) of the Invention(s)

This invention generally relates to computer and/or electronic security.

10 More particularly, this invention relates to systems and techniques for secure transaction management. This invention also relates to computer-based and other electronic appliance-based technologies that help to ensure that information is accessed and/or otherwise used only in authorized ways, and
15 maintains the integrity, availability, and/or confidentiality of such information and processes related to such use.

20 The invention also relates to systems and methods for protecting rights of various participants in electronic commerce and other electronic or electronically-facilitated transactions.

25 The invention also relates to secure chains of handling and control for both information content and information employed to regulate the use of such content and consequences of such use. It also relates to systems and techniques that manage, including meter and/or limit and/or otherwise monitor use of electronically stored and/or disseminated information. The invention particularly relates to transactions, conduct and arrangements that make use of, including consequences of use of, such systems and/or techniques.